



Quarantine guidelines: when sending herbarium material from international herbaria to the Western Australian Herbarium (PERTH)

Various Australian and international laws govern the loan and exchange of herbarium specimens. Internationally, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) ensures that trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

Australia has strict laws governing what can be brought into the country. Herbarium material is also subject to regulation and inspection by the Department of Environment's biosecurity agency (<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade>) to ensure that parcels are free of quarantine risks such as exotic pests and diseases.

The following measures will help facilitate the safe and smooth passage of herbarium material through the inspection process.

All herbarium material sent to the Western Australian Herbarium must be packaged and labelled in accordance with the instructions provided by PERTH.

Loans: When PERTH requests loans from overseas herbaria, we will provide the relevant quarantine documents to accompany the material. When loans are being returned to PERTH, contact the Collections Manager prior to dispatch and we will send the relevant quarantine documents to accompany the returning specimens.

Exchange/donation: When sending exchange/donations to PERTH, herbaria are asked to contact the Collections Manager prior to dispatch and we will send the relevant quarantine documents to accompany the specimens.

Please note that failure to comply with this instruction and lack of the necessary quarantine documents accompanying the specimen may result in packages being opened and specimens damaged.

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